

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-11 FMC-04 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02

DLOS-07 SWF-02 DRC-01 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03

AID-20 LAB-06 SIL-01 /117 W
----- 118833

R 121352Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3854

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 12159

TOKYO FOR MARAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, CGEN, IN

SUBJ: FIRST LASH SHIP TO CALL AT INDIAN PORT

FOLNG SENT NEW DELHI INFO BOMBAY AND MADRAS FROM CALCUTTA
DATED 11 SEPT.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 1892

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, CGEN, IN

SUBJ: FIRST LASH SHIP TO CALL AT INDIAN PORT

REF: MADRAS 1103 AND PREVIOUS

1. FIRST LASH SHIP, SS ROBERT E. LEE (WATERMAN), ARRIVED
CALCUTTA ONS SEPT. 7 AFTER DEPARTING MADRAS. SHE ARRIVED AT
1345 HOURS AT HALDIA, LOWERED GANGPLANK AT 1405 FOR VISITORS
TO COME ABOARD, AFTER SHORT HINDU CEREMONY, BEGAN DISCHAR-
GING FIRST OF 16 BARGES AT 1430 HOURS. FIRST BARGE WAS IN THE
WATER BY 1445. ALL BARGES WERE DISCHARGED BY 1830.

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2. PORT OFFICIALS, AND ESPECIALLY COMMISSIONER OF PORT OF CALCUTTA, WERE IMPRESSED BY THE EFFICIENCY OF THE OPERATION. COMMISSIONER WHO WAS CONOFF'S GUEST ON TRIP FROM CALCUTTA TO HALDIA FELT THAT LASH SHIPS COULD REVITALIZE PORT OF CALCUTTA.

3. VISIT OF SHIP WAS GIVEN LOW-KEY PLAY IN NEWSPAPERS AT REQUEST OF AGENT AND PORT OFFICIALS IN VIEW OF CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE FUTURE LABOR DIFFICULTIES. PORT OFFICIALS AND AGENT STRESSED TO CONOFF THEIR FEARS THAT STRONG PORT WORKERS' UNION MIGHT OBJECT TO ARRIVAL OF THESE TYPE SHIPS AND WERE EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TO THIS POSSIBILITY.

3. SS ROBERT E LEE LEFT FOR COLOMBO WITHOUT PICKING UP ANY CARGO TO DROP BARGES THERE AND TO FIX GYRO COMPASS. PICKERING UNQUOTE MOYNIHAN

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CARGO SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NEWDE12159
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740254-1218
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740952/aaaabrj.tel
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Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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